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# PEACE NEWS

No. 204

LONDON, FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1940

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## George Lansbury Worked For a Better World

### Lord Ponsonby's Tribute

GEORGE LANSBURY was of a very different type from the ordinary politician, writes Lord Ponsonby. The question of career never entered into his ambitions and calculations. He was out of Parliament when I first met him during the war of 1914-18, and I was greatly struck by his genuine enthusiasm for the anti-war line which I and others were proclaiming in the House of Commons.

Whether it was Peace or Woman's Suffrage, or his beloved Poplar, he upheld the causes to which he devoted his life with a spontaneous ardour and complete disregard of the conventions and traditions of parliamentary etiquette.

He burst out into attack or defence regardless of advancement or reputation. He always got down to the fundamental basis of his deep social and religious convictions, and no clever argument could shift him from the rock on which he had set his feet.

Nevertheless, when needed, a mastery of technicalities was by no means neglected. On subjects such as Poor Law, India, &c., he could show in conversation careful judgment founded on knowledge. He was accused of being hostile according to recognized parliamentary standards. He often was; and it was just by his boyish simplicity that frequently he hit the nail on the head.

As chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party he developed considerable powers, and inspired respect and affection. He had personality, and was intensely human. He was intolerant of intellectuals, slightly contemptuous of aristocrats, and curiously sensitive to criticism. Yet a disparaging interruption at a public meeting could be the means of stirring him to great eloquence.

As an ardent champion of the working man, his socialism was not theoretical, but was inspired by the vision never absent from his mind of the trials and sufferings of poverty, of which he had intimate knowledge.

Integrity in modern times may be insufficiently appreciated. But if ever a man in political life could be relied on for complete integrity and reliable consistency George Lansbury was that man. He was a great champion of a great cause. With him the maintenance of Peace and the advance of Socialism went hand in hand. Neither should be compromised, neither neglected. Idealism for him was practical politics.

In the sordid opportunism too common in public life it was a privilege and a great help to know a man who so naturally and without parade refused to compromise with temporary expediency, and on whose road the sun shone bright, however formidable the obstacles might be.

THE pacifist movement mourns the loss of its leader. After a long lifetime devoted to preaching the way to a better world—he was 81—George Lansbury died peacefully on Tuesday evening. We publish here tributes to this Grand Old Christian, Pacifist and Socialist from his close friends, Lord Ponsonby and the Rev. Henry Carter.

Below we outline Mr. Lansbury's recent work for peace, which has been given scant commendation in the Press.

### HIS WORK FOR PEACE

MR. LANSBURY'S pacifism, which survived the test of four wars, was founded, like his socialism, on his Christian faith. It was only natural that one who for so many years had clearly proclaimed the implications of that faith as he saw them, should have been asked by the late "Dick" Sheppard to become one of the first Sponsors of the Peace Pledge Union. It was "Dick" Sheppard, in fact, who gave G.L. the title of "Public Pacifist No. 1."

In April of last year Mr. Lansbury

was elected President of the PPU.

His faith that the way of reason and conciliation must replace the way of violence was no mere intellectual creed; he acted on it, and the practical expression of it which was most outstanding was his series of visits to leading statesmen, arranged by Embassies of Reconciliation.

The first visit was in April, 1936, when he went with Dr. Alfred Salter, MP, to America, where he addressed enthusiastic meetings and talked privately with American leaders.

#### Not Unpractical

In September of the same year followed visits to leading men in France, Belgium and Scandinavia. An interview he gave to *Peace News* on his return answered those who charged him with shutting his eyes to facts and with being an unpractical idealist.

"I am not stupid enough to think that anything I may have said to them has immediately influenced any policy," he said. "But I think our discussions have brought out the fact that in every country both leading statesmen and the masses want peace."

Again, before leaving on his next visit—to Hitler, in April, 1937—he said to *Peace News*: "We do not expect 'miracles.' All the same we have faith that our message of conciliation, justice and peace is true..." On that visit he secured from Hitler a statement of his willingness to attend a conference to thrash out economic problems if President Roosevelt or the head of any other great country would take the lead in calling it.

"I got from Hitler what I wanted," was G.L.'s comment. But the conference was never held.

(Continued on back page.)



### I Have No Magic Carpet...

THE difficulties which confront statesmen today when considering how to bring about the change-over from nationalism to internationalism are colossal. What the conditions and difficulties will be at the close of the present war if it is fought to the bitter end, no one can say. Nevertheless those who desire to see something saved out of the wreckage which war will bring us should devote thought and time to a study of the subject.

There will be no miraculous change, except one on which I shall insist again and again. We must be converted away from the doctrine that some nations possess a greater right to life than others, and instead, accept as applicable to nations, the doctrine "He who would save his life must lose it."

This reads quite unreal and unpractical. It is, on the contrary, the most commonsense, practical teaching ever given to the world.

I am a Christian, a Pacifist, and a Socialist... I have no magic carpet on which our minds may travel to the unknown and come back with stores of distilled wisdom.

No, our road is much more prosaic and difficult, not impossible, to travel along. In fact, it is only difficult because the masses as yet will not believe it is straight and easy to travel.

The task of the peace-maker is like that of the transgressor, hard, and sometimes difficult, full of the hard ruts and stones thrown up by those who oppose all efforts to change society from one form of life to another. But in entering on this discussion, let us do so with a clear determination to shirk no issues and to follow truth wherever it may lead.

—George Lansbury in *This Way to Peace* (February, 1940).

#### Two C.O.s Arrested

TWO more objectors were arrested last week and handed over to the military authorities for failure to comply with enlistment notices. They were John Mitchell, of Standedge, near Oldham, and Daniel Wright, of Winton, near Manchester.

Mitchell is believed to have submitted to medical examination in January; Wright was examined in September. Both cases were dismissed when they came before the Appellate Tribunal.

### A Pacifist Commentary

Edited by "Observer"

## Labour and the Spread of Tyranny

WILFRED WELLOCK writes: The Labour Party Conference takes place this Whitsuntide at Bournemouth. It is to decide big issues. Whatever be our attitude to politics or to political parties, such decisions as the Labour Party will make at Bournemouth have much to do with the outstanding question of the day: shall totalitarianism be ended or extended? The extension of totalitarianism to Britain will fundamentally affect the life of every British citizen.

And we pacifists believe that war is the surest way of extending it, for it is totalitarianism and aggravates all the evils from which that tyranny springs.

The big debate at Bournemouth will be on the issue of whether to end the party truce: the party machine has seen to it that the stop-the-war demand will be swamped.

Three courses are open to the Conference: 1. It may continue the truce, in which case it is probable that, after a little while, certain members of the Labour Party will enter the War Cabinet. This alternative, up to now popular in the front ranks, has suffered a set-back among the rank-and-file

owing to the reversal in Norway. The view is now widespread that the Government is too incompetent to be supported, officially, by the Labour Party.

2. The second alternative is to end the political truce and to put up an alternative to the Government, a coalition of Labour, Liberals, and certain Tories. This would be a no-half-measures, fight-to-a-finish, Government. It would take big risks, force the pace of the war and probably attack on several fronts simultaneously. The war would thus—sardonically enough—be fought out in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Yugoslavia, Rumania, the Black Sea—anywhere except in the countries of the belligerents—and would completely devastate the very countries which the Allies profess to be anxious to save. A totalitarian Europe would be the inevitable outcome.

3. The third alternative, which will

not be adopted at Bournemouth, but in which lies the only hope of saving democracy and ending totalitarianism anywhere, is a coalition of sane people who see where the whole ghastly business of this war is leading, and which seeks to get "above the battle" by means of a policy that will unite the peoples of all the belligerent countries—Britain, France and Germany—by providing the only basis upon which Europe can function as a democracy henceforth, that of international socialist co-operation.

Its sponsors ought to be the Labour Party, the very Party that is at present demanding a more vigorous prosecution of the war. Nevertheless there will be at Bournemouth—as elsewhere—a minority in favour of the peace coalition. Moreover its numbers will grow, and the Peace Pledge Union has a duty in seeing that they do.

Other comments, by "Observer," appear on page 2.

## He was a Pilgrim for Peace

says

### Rev. Henry Carter

GEORGE LANSBURY'S book *My Quest for Peace* is open before me. On the title page, in his familiar writing, are the words:—

"A tiny token of remembrance of happy, worrying, hectic and peaceful days, working together at home and abroad, seeking the Spirit of Love and Peace."

The book is the story of the journeys in Europe which G.L. undertook in the last five years of his crowded life, already devoted to the service of the plain folk he loved so well. They were journeys whose sole object was to reason and plead with the statesmen who ruled European countries to turn from the fatal armaments race, and unitedly build peace for the sake of the common people of all lands.

We had formed in 1936 the free-lance Christian group which came to be known as "Embassies of Reconciliation." It grew out of talks at the International For conference which met in Cambridge that year. Charles Raven was its chairman, and Percy Bartlett its tireless secretary. George Lansbury became, as we loved to call him, "Ambassador-in-Chief." He had laid

down the Labour Party leadership on the sanctions and armaments issue; had crossed to the United States and seen President Roosevelt and Mr. Cordell Hull; and had come back to England eager to advance the claim for a genuine World Conference to grapple with the causes of the growing tensions between European Governments, as the one way to prevent war.

We drew together. That is the only way in which I can describe what happened. The "EoR" group asked him whether, breaking through convention, he would visit the capitals of Europe, see the rulers face to face, and try to win their assent to the World Conference project. He reflected, and accepted. "I do not go as a leader or even as a politician," he wrote; "but as one ordinary man talking to other ordinary men, striving to bring the minds of statesmen down to earth, asking them to realize whither they are

### Last Message to the P.P.U.

MR. LANSBURY was too ill to attend the annual general meeting of the Peace Pledge Union held a fortnight ago. He sent a message which was read at the opening of the conference, and from which we quote the following:

"Our gospel is as old, true, and solid as the hills. Violence and force have been tried again and again, and have always failed, because such action is based on the foolish belief that evil may be overcome by evil... We are standing foursquare for the principle that all peoples of the world are equal in the sight of God... So, comrades, with confidence hold on to the truth your conscience reveals to you, and honour and respect those whose conscience leads them along the opposite road."



## A Pacifist Commentary . . . . . continued from page one

### Cause and Effect in Norway :: Holding the Germans Down—A Futile Post-War Policy :: The Tap-Root of Militarism

IN the heat of their indignation over Hitler's thrust to the North, many people may lose sight of the events immediately preceding it.

Some indication of cause and effect, however, was given in a chronology of news dispatches published in the April 13 issue of *Uncensored* (New York). It is unfortunately much too long for me to reproduce in full, but the following items are particularly revealing:

**March 29, Berlin:** "The increased activity of the British sea force in Norwegian waters is being followed by the German Admiralty with considerable, but, allegedly, not apprehensive interest—for the time being. If this activity constitutes a part of the Anglo-French 'challenge' to the neutrality of Norway and Sweden, the Germans, it was hinted in informed circles, will not be late in answering it."

"The Reich's defence forces, these quarters added, are merely waiting for the moment that is to decide the nature of the methods to be adopted to ensure the protection of German commerce playing Norwegian territorial waters."

**March 30, London:** "The French and British believe they have it in their power—if that power is used ruthlessly enough—to force Germany into the field in any sector they select, much as if one presses a capped tube of toothpaste hard enough it will break out somewhere. The blockade, which is only partly effective thus far because of solicitude for neutral feelings, is the weapon that will be used...."

"If by exerting sufficient pressure on Sweden the Allies can bring about reduction of ore shipments to Germany, it is believed Herr Hitler will be forced into attack on Sweden, which will give the British and French a new opportunity in moving into Scandinavia—an opportunity for a flanking movement against Germany that was lost when Finland concluded peace with Russia."

**April 9, London:** "Now that the Allies have taken the long delayed but long planned action in Norwegian territorial waters to interrupt German contraband by what is termed technical violation of the Scandinavian country's neutrality, chief interests here lies in what Germany plans to do about it...."

#### Twisting it

"HEIL FRIENDS—Peace Union to the Nazis." Thus did a smart sub-editor on the *Daily Express* headline a story in its issue of May 1.

This was the story: "Two resolutions passed at the annual general meeting in London of the Peace Pledge Union:—  
"1. That this conference... desires to reaffirm its friendship with the German and all other people in all lands;  
"2. That this annual general meeting... assures all conscientious objectors in this country of the fullest support it can give."  
"Hail Friends—Peace Union to the World"—would have been a more accurate heading and would have taken no more space. I wonder why it wasn't used?

#### Holding Them Down

**M. DUFF COOPER** has recently followed the lead of Professor Saurat in urging that we should not trust the Germans to keep the peace after this war. Hold them down; put garrisons in their towns—that is the sort of argument that is becoming increasingly common. The desire for security is understandable, but is this the way to get it? Pacifists have always said "No." Now comes Commander Stephen King-Hall, MP—certainly no pacifist—to answer those who advocate such a futile and dangerous policy.

In his *News Letter* recently he wrote: "How is the menace of war to be removed from Europe? Will the military defeat of Germany ensure this purpose being achieved?" "The story of 1919 to 1939 gives a mocking answer."

"Some people will say 'The results will be different if the military defeat of Nazi Germany is followed by the permanent maintenance of Allied superiority over Germany by garrisons, by splitting Germany into States, or suchlike

measures."

"But when we have achieved military victory, and it will be a costly task in blood and treasure, will our young men and their parents be prepared to make the necessary sacrifices to hold down Germany for ten, fifteen, or twenty years?" "A peace dependent solely upon an affirmative answer to this question would be on frail foundations."

"Within five years from the imposition of the most stringent terms on German, a revisionist movement would be gathering strength, and the less successful it was to begin with, the more the flames of a reviving German nationalism would be fed."

"It seems impossible to evade the conclusion that if one is obliged to apply force to the Germans in order to convince them that power politics based on force lead to disaster, that basis of dealing with the German people must as soon as practicable be replaced by something else. If, in 1942, we defeat Germany by the use of superior force, and if (a big 'if') we are still holding down Germany in 1952 by force, in the sense that we are then denying her equality on the ground that she cannot be trusted, I should have thought that the German of 1952 would argue that might is right, and that he must in some way or other become stronger than the victors who were denying him equality."

"If this argument is correct, the inevitable disinclination of the post-war Britain to spend a substantial part of his energy in holding down Germany, a disinclination which may be shared by post-war Frenchmen, can only be guarded against by ensuring that the peace settlement is under-written psychologically by a substantial proportion of the German people."

#### Why Conscription Must Go

IN connexion with another aspect of post-war policy, **E. C. WILLIMENT**, of Swanley, Kent, writes:

The danger of conscription becoming a permanent feature of the "abiding peace" of the brave new world now being designed by the architects of the second world-war (which destroyed the "abiding peace" created by the first world-war), makes the following quotations from General J. C. Smuts' proposals—formulated in December, 1918—for the constitution of the projected new League of Nations, very interesting:

"Of the three proposals for disarmament, the abolition of conscription is by far the most im-

portant."

"I would plead most earnestly for the abolition of conscription at the peace conference."

"I would go so far as to say that while the great Powers are allowed to raise conscript armies without hindrance or limit, it would be in vain to expect the lasting preservation of world peace. If the instrument is ready for use, the occasion will arrive and the men will arise to use it. I look upon conscription as the tap-root of militarism; unless that is cut, all our labours will eventually be in vain."

#### Demands of Humanity

WITH the concentration of abnormally large British and French fleets in the eastern Mediterranean continuing, Italy's attitude to the war is still the subject of speculation. Hitler is reported to be awaiting Mussolini's assent to stage yet another move.

No-one can forecast with certainty the line the Italian dictator will take; one can only hope that he will take note of the remarkable demonstration in favour of keeping out of the war which happened in Rome last weekend.

At a service in the Vatican, the Pope, after a sermon entirely "imbued with the idea of peace," uttered an extempore and earnest prayer for peace, to which (according to the *Daily Telegraph*) "the thousands who had stood in deep silence packed together in the nave of the church gave their assent not by repeating after the Pope the word 'Amen,' but by clapping their hands and by continuing to clap their hands for some five minutes."

Commenting on this demonstration, the *Star* said:—

"The voice of those people in Italy who applauded the sermon in which the Pope appealed for peace is the voice of reason in the world. They spoke, not only for the common people of Italy, but for the world. Whether their dictator heeds them or not, they have done the world a service: they have reminded us of the sanity underlying the present madness. They feel, as those English mothers whose action has been criticized at Clacton felt when they put flowers on the coffins of Nazi airmen, that the demands of humanity are greater than all the demands of the dictators."

"Of the Dictators" only?

#### War and Lying

"It is impossible to conduct a large-scale war successfully without systematic lying. That was discovered years and years ago. If you tell the truth about the other side your own people will soon realize that their supposed enemies are brothers of the human race and poor, struggling devils like themselves.—W. E. Woodward, *A New American History*.

## J. MIDDLETON MURRY:

# CREATING THE CHURCH A NEW

**TOTALITARIANISM** is the consequence of the repudiation of Christian obligation by the national societies in a machine-civilization. We are the last to feel the consequences because we were the first to enter that civilization.

We may admit that it is difficult to imagine how Christianity could have been prepared to control this new industrial civilization. It was terrifyingly new; and in retrospect it appears to have been largely created by the outburst of individual energy which accompanied the disruption of the universal Christianity which might have controlled it.

This suggests that there is a much more radical incompatibility between industrial civilization and traditional Christianity than we are yet able to admit; and also that any form of Christianity which is capable of positive influence on an industrial civilization will be very unlike any Christianity with which we are familiar. At any rate it is one more evidence that we are now plunged full into a phase of world-history in which it is doubtful whether Christianity in the traditional forms can survive at all.

We may believe that the inmost essence of Christianity is imperishable, simply because it stands in the nature of the revelation of God in Jesus Christ that the Christian religion has the

power to rise from its own ashes. But certainty of that order affords no guarantee of continuity for the empirical Church.

#### New Form of Church?

There is, no doubt, a kind of Christian faith which can accept, or endure, this vision of contemporary history; but by its very nature it is compelled to dissociate itself from totalitarian and anti-Christian war. It must, therefore, become an ostracized Christianity, and, as the totalitarian stresses are intensified, a persecuted one. And it may conceivably be that in the small communities of pacifists which are now being formed by the compulsion of circumstance to work on the land there is the nucleus of the new form of the Christian Church.

If Britain still has a creative part to play in the evolution of Europe, this may be the way she is appointed to play it; for it is due to British fidelity to the best of its own Christian-democratic tradition that such communities are allowed to exist at all. If these communities prove to have the significance we can imagine for them, it will be the singular destiny of Britain to have implanted the disease of industrial nationalism in Europe, by undermining her own and her neighbours' agricultural economies, and to have set in motion the restorative process, by driving her sensitive Christian, or Christian-minded men back to the land, and thus making them capable of a deeper and more natural Christianity than is professed today.

#### The Major Problem

But this may also be a pathetically blinkered and parochial vision. It may in any case be charged with evading the major problem: which is to re-establish Christianity as a positive influence in an industrialized and nationalistic Europe. If that problem is soluble at all without changing the nature of the terms (as they would be changed, for instance, if industrial and nationalistic Europe does not cease from war till it has destroyed itself by shattering the intricate communications on which it depends), then it may be said with assurance that in order to solve it a Christian effort of an entirely new kind, and an unprecedented order of intensity is required.

A Christian revolutionary movement, with a dynamic equal to its prodigious task, would be difficult to create at any time, but almost impossible when the energies of the nations are concentrated and canalized into totalitarian war. If only, during the last twenty years, a body of Christian men and women could have been found voluntarily to impose upon themselves the same sacrifices as are now enforced upon them by the demands of the nation at war! One hundred thousand British men and women taxing themselves, as Sir John Simon now taxes them, to further the creation of a Christian social order—what could we not have done to create the reality of a hope for Europe?

Yet surely nothing less was demanded of a veritable Christian Church. That would have been a tiny sacrifice compared with that which

## DROP

something useful from your bombers: that was the suggestion made by John Barclay, Group Organizer of the Peace Pledge Union, at a meeting in the Coudsdon Labour Hall recently.

He said: "If I were Prime Minister for a week I would order millions of small clothes to be done up in

## PARCELS

(nothing to fit Goering or Goebbels), and send every bomber I could rake up over industrial towns of Germany. There these parcels would be dropped, labelled 'A present from the English people.' And John Barclay would

## NOT

stop at sending gifts by air. He added that as well as sending the Germans clothes for children he would use the convoys to take shiploads of coffee to Hamburg, and leave them there with banners saying: "A present to the Germans from the English." The Germans would then say to themselves: "The Leader says the British want to starve us and yet they give us this." This would undermine Hitler's power.

In short, a much better idea than

## BOMBS

## Advisory Bureaux for Objectors

Following are further amendments and additions to the lists of Advisory Bureaux for COs already published in *Peace News*. Any similar changes should be sent to the Central Advisory Bureau, at Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1, and not to *Peace News*.

#### Amendments

**COALVILLE.** J. E. White, 19 Greenfield Drive, Coalville, nr. Leicester.  
**DURHAM.** Miss M. Poulter, 66 Claypath, Durham.  
**NEW MALDEN.** Cyril F. Knight, 19 Onslow Road, New Malden, Surrey.  
**YORK.** Mr. C. Hutchinson, Craggy Field, Galtres Grove, York.

#### Additions

**HAYWARDS HEATH.** R. S. Botting, 50 Gordon Road, Haywards Heath.

## New Forward Movement

The Activist Group has combined with the Forward Group to form the Forward Movement of the PPU. They have issued a statement on the AGM, and will have a Manifesto ready for circulation within ten days, together with the first of a series of give-away leaflets.

Those desiring copies should write to John MacLean, 4 Doughty Mews, London, W.C.1.

## SHYLOCK ON THE BOARD?

Our statement that the rate of interest paid by the St. Pancras Building Society on its new issue of shares is more than equal to five-and-a-half per cent., gross, seems to have evoked in at least one honest heart a fear that the Society transacted its business on exorbitant terms.

Nothing could be further from the truth. There is a difference of slightly more than one per cent. between the rate paid by the Society's borrowers and the rate its investors receive. Three-and-a-half per cent. is hardly an excessive return. It is the advantageous concession in income-tax which justifies our comparison.

Interest free of tax; easy withdrawal; the constructive objects for which the Society works: all make it unnecessary to invite Shylock on to the St. Pancras Board!

Managing Director: E. W. BALES

**ST. PANCRAS BUILDING SOCIETY**  
ST. PANCRAS HOUSE, PARKWAY, N.W.1



## CAN BRITAIN WIN THE PEACE?

A series of lectures will be held at the **HOLBORN HALL** on what the British people must have in the Peace Charter. Every Wednesday beginning May 15

#### HOW TO FINANCE PEACE

by The Marquess of Tavistock

#### CAN DEMOCRACY WORK?

by John Beckett

#### PEACE AND FOOD

by R. D. Jebb [Ed. Weekly Review]

#### FREEDOM AND THE PRESS

by Hugh Ross-Williamson

#### INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

by Ben Greene, J.P.

Every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m.

Course tickets for all five lectures: 2s. 6d. and 1s. 6d. from British Peoples Party, 13 John St., London, W.C.1. Single lectures: 6d. and 1s.

— PACIFISM MUST BE CONSTRUCTIVE —

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# TRUTH AND OURSELVES

By John Barclay

WHEN Galileo stated that the world moved round the sun, he was tortured for telling what was the simple truth. We are constantly faced with the problem of speaking out or remaining quiet. To remain quiet at your own command is one thing but to refuse to speak the truth because it is dangerous to the State is another.

Such is the subject of the Bow Street summons, now pending as I write. The answer that the PPU must give to such a challenge is to speak the truth more diligently than before and spend every available penny of buying literature from Dick Sheppard House and making it widely known.

The old saying that Truth is the first casualty in war may soon be abundantly evident. The only ambulance work that can restore the truth to the world is the constant witness to it by devoted individuals.

The times we live in are so bereft of sanity and so lacking in the spirit of good will and understanding that it is our primary duty to cultivate these barren days with heavy dressings of truth. Therefore, whatever you do for your own edification, make it a first call on your purse to supply literature to those engulfed in war-neurosis.

We often forget how extremely fortunate we are as a movement in having so many first-class writers in our ranks; men of world-wide reputation in religion, art and politics are writing our latest pamphlets and serving on our Councils. Fools we should be indeed if we did not use this moment to display our talents to the world. I do urge you to buy our literature in large quantities and use your energy in getting it out into the hands of all those who will read—and they are legion.

During the weekend of the Annual General Meeting £25 worth of books and pamphlets were sold. We could make this our daily average if everyone would take a part in distribution.

In any case, consider. Have you read the latest "Bond of Peace" pamphlets by Canon Raven, Middleton Murry, Wilfred Wellock and Eric Gill: or the books of Max Plowman and Laurence Housman or Vera Brittain? Do you have our Literature List, and how many of your friends know the history of the Peace Pledge Union? Are the books of Dick Sheppard in your shelves and how many of the leaflets bearing his name have been distributed in your area?

Finally, on this all-important question of truth; do you believe that you yourself have become involved? It depends upon how much each one of us takes up the burden of responsibility as to the final victory for truth. Let our witness be both personal and public, silent and vocal as well as complete.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### "A Truly Pacific Programme"

IF we were a pacific people, the Peace Pledge Union could reasonably use the slogan "Negotiate Now," knowing that our Government's generosity and sincerity would strike the responsive spark in the German character so that true peace could be sought together. But—and it is a big "but"—we are not a pacific people.

In such circumstances, as we know, crying "Stop the War," or "Negotiate Now" will not stop the war but will, and does, start the fury which is a durable shield against reason or witness. So that, far from dissembling or retreating if we discard those slogans, we will be discarding expressions which circumstances have made radically opposed to pacifism.

But I would go further and stress the great practical advantages of another truly pacific programme. If we devote every effort toward restoring the friendly and generous feelings so many are losing entirely, and toward winning constant practical assurances from our governors that they too value those feelings, then we will be trying, not so directly but much more surely, to "stop the war."

J. W. NEWELL.

### If Germany Wins

IN this war with Germany there are two things to worry about; Britain may lose or "win." If she should lose there are two things to worry about, Hitler might suppress all freedom, or he might not.

If he did, there would be two things to worry about; that pacifists became cowards and ceased to witness to what they believed true, or that they remained faithful to the end.

Short of pre-organized passive resistance, each must decide for himself what action to take.

H. K. COMPTON.

64 Granville Street, Gloucester.

I think the following extract from a letter which I wrote the *Sunday Pictorial* in reply to a leading article which appeared in that newspaper, fully answers your correspondent's point:

"You then go on to assert—like your co-partner the *Daily Mail*—that we are, in effect, friends of Hitler. How do you justify this statement when we are told that our counterparts in Germany have been shot or put into concentration camps? Is it not plain to you that we neither uphold this country's participation in warfare nor Germany's—that whatever our nationality our conscience would be the same?"

One must not forget the fact that even Nazi-Germany has its pacifists.

ALFRED T. FITZGIBBON.

31 Randall Drive, Hornchurch, Essex.

Mr. J. D. Wickens, of Holland Park, London, draws attention to "the methods outlined by Bertrand Russell and quoted in Professor Joad's *Why War?*"—Ed.

### Points from Letters

#### FIRMER THAN EVER

It may be that we shall find it difficult to hold meetings, or even possibly to have our *Peace News*. This may give a feeling of isolation to many, but we must remember that round us are thousands of others who think as we do, and if it comes to the point that we are hounded by the British equivalent of the German Gestapo, that is the time to make our stand firmer than ever.

"MANCHESTER MEMBER PPU."

#### TO TEACHERS

At the AGM of the Hants and Isle of Wight Association of Assistant Masters at Bournemouth on May 25, the following resolution will be moved: "That the executive is urged to watch carefully for cases of victimization of conscientious objectors and to take appropriate action if necessary." I shall be glad to hear from any AMA member who can attend, and of details of the victimization or attempted victimization of any teacher.

RONALD S. MALLONE, 53 Musgrove Road, New Cross, S.E.14.

#### TO PUBLIC SERVANTS

I would appreciate opinions from readers on the suggestion that it might be advantageous if all public servants linked up to form one large group rather than two or three smaller ones. There is the Civil Service Pacifist Fellowship in addition to the Local Government Officers' Peace Group.

WILLIAM G. FORD, 8 Kingswood Avenue, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

#### "COMMUNITY OF SERVICE"

As a result of many conversations during and after the PPU annual general meeting, I am putting out a suggestion for a "community of service" to be situated in London. The main essentials of such a community are, I gather (1) the ideal of service, (2) absolute personal freedom within the community, (3) the pooling of incomes and the common ownership of all property. Will any persons who are willing to help in this scheme in any way, and all those who are interested, please communicate with me.

LESLIE JOHNS, 8 Osborne House, St. Mary's Terrace, W.2.

#### ALTERNATIVE TO WAR

George E. Hurdle urges us to accept every atrocity story as true, and base our pacifist argument on the efficacy of non-violent resistance. Non-violent resistance is not exclusively a matter of mass non-cooperation (the negative side of the method), but demands as its positive aspect the confrontation of untruths with truth.

The pacifist is at this moment engaged on a non-violent "campaign" against the forces and interests which lead to war and poverty, and it is his duty to oppose the spreading of untruths in the form of atrocity stories.

JOHN E. RADCLIFFE, Quinton, Birmingham.

### P.P.U. SCOTTISH AREA CONFERENCE

Glasgow, 10th—12th May

Friday 10th, 7.30 p.m. Tickets 2/6d.

Opening Social, Miss Rombach's Restaurant, 5, Waterloo Street. Sir Hugh S. Robertson.

Saturday 11th

11 a.m. Opening of Dick Sheppard Centre

48, Dundas Street. By Miss Sybil Morrison.

2.30—8 p.m. Scottish Conference

Christian Institute, Bothwell Street. Conference fee—1/-.

Sunday 12th

3.30 p.m. Public Meeting

Central Halls, 25, Bath Street.

Prof. G. H. C. Macgregor.

Miss Sybil Morrison.

Tickets and full particulars from Herbert Palmer, P.P.U. Office, 534, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, C.2.

## WOMEN'S PEACE CAMPAIGN

There will be a meeting in Hyde Park at 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 18, in support of the Women's Appeal to Governments. The speakers will be Mary Gamble, Dorothy Evans, Sybil Morrison and others.

On the same day in Holland women are holding their annual Peace Procession as usual and have written to us asking for a message of sympathy and support. The following message has been sent:—"The Women's Peace Campaign send you their heartfelt good wishes in your efforts for International understanding and fellowship and unite with you on May 18 in a demonstration in Hyde Park, London, appealing for Peace negotiations now."

Sybil Thorndike, assisted by her daughter, Ann Casson, will give a series of poetry readings on the following dates:—

Sunday, May 19, 8 p.m. Millicent Fawcett Hall, 46 Tufnell Street, Westminster. Introduced by Mary Gamble.

Sunday, June 2, 8 p.m. Dick Sheppard Club, Binney Street (off Oxford Street). Introduced by John Middleton Murry.

Sunday, June 16, 8 p.m. Dick Sheppard Club, Binney Street. Introduced by Richard Ward.

Sunday, June 30, 8 p.m. Dick Sheppard Club, Binney Street. Introduced by Sybil Morrison.

Admission will be free with a silver collection in aid of the funds of the Women's Peace Campaign. Leaflets and admission tickets are now ready.

#### SYBIL MORRISON,

6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1.

Members of Committee: Miss Mary Gamble (Chairman), Miss Sybil Morrison (Secretary), Mrs. Kinnish, Miss Muriel Bolander, Mrs. Grindlay, Miss Dorothy Evans, Mrs. Barclay, Mrs. Roberts, Dame Sybil Thorndike, Miss E. B. Ross.

## What Does PPU Stand For?



THE Peace Pledge Union is the pacifist society which was founded by Canon Dick Sheppard in 1934, when he invited all those who were willing to pledge themselves to renounce war to send him their names. The society is entirely non-sectarian and welcomes within its ranks everyone who is resolved not to be the means of war's activity, irrespective of the particular form of reasoning or faith which has brought him to this decision.

Thousands of men and women, prompted by religious, rational or broadly humanitarian conviction, have now set their signatures to this pledge and, moving forward from this negative beginning, have set their energies to its positive fulfilment. Like their decision to make a renunciation of war, their ways of acting for the attainment of peace remain individual.

The groups of the Peace Pledge Union scattered throughout the country follow collectively these ways to the construction of a different social order: by public demonstration they endeavour to bring their aims to the notice of others; in the belief that a new social order requires new men and women, they endeavour to constitute units of the new society within the old.

The Peace Pledge Union cannot be termed a political body in the accepted sense; it is not realistic to use the machinery of party politics in order to change a society whose values that machinery expresses. Yet in another sense, action expressing the values respected by progressive people is political action. Nor can the Union be termed a religious body in the accepted sense; to use the familiar machinery of religious organizations which have failed to establish a warless society is again unrealistic. In another sense, however, the attempt to express the values which have been the foundation of all religions is to practise religion.

Quite simply, therefore, the Peace Pledge Union asks its members to make use of their common humanity for the realization of peace: the alternative is to allow contemporary warfare to make use of their talents for common barbarism.

At a meeting of the National Council of the Peace

Pledge Union, it was agreed that, though they should not be held binding in any sense upon any member, the following affirmations express, in the Council's view, the corporate mind of the Peace Pledge Union.

"We are agreed

"1. In attaching supreme value to the human person and the integrity of the individual.

"It is necessary to distinguish between the integrity of the individual, and an individualism, the exaggeration of which has prevented the realization of true democracy, and opened the way for totalitarianism.

"We are agreed

"2. In believing that the individual only achieves full personality through the establishment of right relationships with others.

"This involves the acceptance of a share of the guilt and the responsibility of society. For some this acceptance will find expression in the attempt to reform society from within; for others an experiment through community to lead a corporate life, which, however, should not be used as a way of escape.

"We are agreed

"3. In our apprehension of the increasing power of the existing social order to destroy the individual and prohibit real community.

"Existing society denies the pacifist way of life; and we must therefore witness against this denial. This involves a recognition of the subhuman tendencies towards totalitarianism in the present situation, and an attempt to expose them. The willing submission to the common good which is exploited in totalitarianism must be incorporated in a new society based upon a new culture.

"We are agreed

"4. That our task is always to take the most creative and constructive action in the face of existing circumstances.

"The way of justice and love, to many expressed as 'the way of Christ,' is the straight way to the redemption of the individual and of society."

A series of pamphlets developing and considering these affirmations is published by the PPU, under the general title of "The Bond of Peace," price 3d. each.

The national headquarters of the PPU are at Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, London, W.C.1, from which addresses of local groups and details of other publications can be obtained, and to which you should send your signed pledge: "I renounce war and I will never support or sanction another."

## Classified Advertisements

2d. per word, minimum 2s. 6d.  
Box Number 6d. extra

Latest time for copy,  
Tuesday morning

### SITUATIONS

#### Vacant

FARM WORK for young, physically fit men. Experience unnecessary, good wages, accommodation and excellent opportunities for thorough training to the right men. Must be able to commence work this month. Full details: Pacifist Service Bureau, 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1.

LAD wanted, learn woodwork. Old established firm, Wales. Farm accommodation provided.—Box 424, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

#### Wanted

CO (204) awaiting Appeal, urgently desires employment; preferably clerical. Living SW London.—Box 437, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

CO (25) seeks job near Manchester, try anything, clerical experience.—Box 430, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

CO (aged 25) seeks release from war-work urgent. Experienced book-keeper-cashier and office routine. Go anywhere, Birmingham preferred.—Box 439, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, N.4.

CO (24), awaiting tribunal, urgently requires work. Agricultural, horticultural, or farmwork of any description. Inexperienced, but willing to learn. Reliable worker. Go anywhere.—Box 444, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

CO (24), married, awaiting Tribunal, thoroughly experienced clerk, shorthand-typist. Seeks release war work.—Harris, 65 Sandringham Road, E.10.

PACIFIST (19) requires work of any kind, 4 1/2 years' clerical experience.—Box 441, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

PACIFIST (21), B.Sc., chemistry, physics, experienced agricultural analyses, fertilizers, sulphuric acid, seeks useful position anywhere.—Box 429, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, N.4.

PACIFIST (23), with shop assistant, packing experience, requires situation. Anything considered.—Box 442, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

PACIFIST (25), well educated. Degree languages. Desires agricultural work in or near Birmingham. Some experience.—Box 438, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

PACIFIST (27), single, requires farm work at once, inexperienced, willing to learn. Live in, pocket money. Go anywhere.—Craibrie, 162, Leymoor, Goiccar, Huddersfield.

YOUNG MAN requires digs. Pacifist house, Seven Kings, Ilford area. Moderate terms.—Box 443, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

### WHERE TO STAY

DEBBYSHIRE HILLS. Food reform. Vegetarian Guest House. Alt. 600 ft. For happy holidays or restful recuperation. Central heating. H. and C. water in bedrooms.—A. and K. S. Ludlow, The Briers, Crich, Matlock. Station: Ambergate (L.M.S.). Tel.: Ambergate 44.

HASTINGS. Mary and Kenneth Wray, "Thinkers Dell," Battle, welcome Paying Guests. Beautiful country; easy bus distance of sea. 21 gns. double, 3 gns. single. Vegetarian or meat.

LONDON: FOWLER, "Newlyn House," 9 Argyle Street, W.C.1. B. and B., 5s.; double 8s. 6d. Opposite St. Pancras Station. Tel. 3572.

LOVELY LUSTLEIGH. Come and leave your children at Mapstone Home School and Guest House. Two houses, high, healthy—over 500 feet above sea-level. Farm produce, home-baking. Family terms, moderate.—Mapstone, Lustleigh, Devon.

WYE VALLEY HOLIDAYS. Guest House and Community Crafts Centre. Vegetarian diet. Barn House, Brockweir, Mon.

### MISCELLANEOUS

ACCOMMODATION. Rent and coal free, 2 large rooms and kitchen in modernized flat with garden in Ealing, in exchange for light duties (plain cooking) to elderly lady and business man. References essential.—Box 440, *Peace News*, 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.

BECOME a non-smoker! Save £10-£20 per annum. Improve—and preserve—your health. Unique, drugless, infallible method.—Wainley Course, 87 Taggart Avenue, Liverpool, 16.

BEDSITTING ROOM, beautiful outlook, use kitchen, 6s. Also happy inexpensive home for child.—"Catherine's," Barn Road, Christchurch, Hants.

CYCLES: Britain's best at £5 9s. and £5 18s., carriage paid; every necessary accessory even to cyclist. Made by over 40 years' established Harris Cycle Co., Coventry.

CHRISTIAN PACIFIST POLITICAL MOVEMENT. Send for a copy of important pamphlet, "Peace NOW!" by Rev. St. Ingil James; 11s. post free, from 23 Clara Street, Stoke, Coventry.

### TUESDAY, 14th MAY

St. Peter's Hall, Hinton Rd., Bournemouth.  
R. W. SORESENSEN, M.P.  
DR. A. D. BELDEN  
COUNCILLOR W. C. ELLIOTT  
Subject:  
"LABOUR AND PEACE"  
Chair to be taken at 7.30 p.m. by  
MISS MINNIE PALLISTER.

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## HIS WORK FOR PEACE

(Continued from page 1)

July, 1937, found this tireless worker for peace in Rome, talking to Mussolini. The Italian paper *Tribuna* said of him: "We do not know if men like George Lansbury can influence the course of history, but it is certain that contact with him does one good, because it makes one feel more serene. His great sincerity appears beyond discussion."

The same month Mr. Lansbury spoke at the opening of the conference of the War Resisters' International in Copenhagen. His speech was broadcast in Denmark. Mr. Lansbury had become President of the WRI a few months previously.

### His Missions

Czechoslovakia, Poland and Austria were visited on the next peace mission—in December. "If Britain would invite the world to give three months' expenditure on armaments, for a start," said the missionary-in-chief when he returned, "to the work of finding a solution for Europe's economic problems, I am sure an immense load would be removed from men's minds as to the fear of war."

Britain made no such invitation, or Czechoslovakia and Poland might never have suffered as they were soon to do.

Another mission was undertaken when Europe seemed under the shadow of imminent war—August, 1938. This time Sofia, Belgrade, Bucharest, and Budapest were visited; King Carol of Rumania was among those with whom he talked on that visit.

By the end of 1938 the hopes raised in some quarters after Munich had disappeared. Mr. Lansbury's next move was to write to the Pope in March, 1939, suggesting the calling of a conference of the world's religious leaders, to meet in Jerusalem at Easter.

### Move to Stop War

But the world did not follow Mr. Lansbury's way and he suffered the bitter disappointment of seeing yet another war break out. His faith had in no way weakened and in November last, in *Peace News* and elsewhere, he invited people to sending him a postcard if they supported the attempt of Queen Wilhelmina and King Leopold to get the belligerents to stop the war and settle their differences by negotiation. More than fifteen thousand people soon responded.

These untiring efforts to bring the world to the path of sanity were recognized by members of both Houses of Parliament when, in January of this year, they nominated Mr. Lansbury for the Nobel Peace Prize. Many other prominent people supported the nomination.

Though later events prevented anything coming of this nomination, a wide circle of his friends were able to give him a reminder of their friendship before he died, for in July last they presented him with a portrait bust by the refugee sculptor, Joseph Abbo.

### Prejudice and "Pride"

BY Monday 100 men in the Isle of Man must join the forces, get jobs on the mainland, or live on what money their relatives can spare them.

After that day the Manx Government will not give the dole to anyone of military age who is medically fit and has not volunteered for service.

"Islanders are proud" (reports the *Daily Express*) "that among the 3,000 men—there is a population of 50,000—sent to the colours there has not been one conscientious objector."

"Two Manxmen have applied for exemption on conscientious grounds, but it is hoped they will change their minds before they face the tribunal."

The address to which pacifists should send messages of support for the Dutch women's peace march in Amsterdam on May 18 is: Miss Dr. M. A. Thiel, 19 Laan van Meerdervoort, The Hague, Holland—and not the address we published last week.



In a recent Parliamentary debate it was suggested that our unemployment was a hidden reserve of power which other countries did not possess.

## Government's Attitude to Pacifist Propaganda

### IMPORTANT NEW DEVELOPMENTS

TWO events falling between the time of going to Press and the appearance of this issue should serve to make clearer the attitude of the Government to pacifist propaganda in general and the Peace Pledge Union in particular.

It was reported on Wednesday that the Home Secretary would make a statement in the House of Commons yesterday (Thursday) "about the regulations for dealing with propaganda directed against the national war effort."

This follows agitation by certain back-bench Conservative Members of Parliament and subsequent consultations between Sir John Anderson and Opposition leaders.

Yesterday, too, the four chief officers of the Peace Pledge Union were summoned to appear at Bow Street, London, police court on charges under the Defence Regulations. They were:

Dr. Alex Wood (Chairman).  
Stuart Morris (General Secretary).  
Maurice L. Rowntree (Hon. Treasurer).  
John Barclay (Group Organizer).

#### The Charges

The charge against them was that "with intent to procure the contravention of Regulation 39A (1) (a) of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939," they had under their control "documents of such a nature that the dissemination of copies thereof among persons in His Majesty's service would constitute such a contravention contrary to Regulation 39A (1) (b) of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939."

A further charge against them, and also against Ronald H. Smith (of Forest Hill) and Sidney Todd (of Bodicote, near Banbury), read: (that they) "did endeavour to cause among persons in His Majesty's service disaffection likely to lead to breaches of their duty, contrary to Regulation 39A (1) (a) of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939." It was understood that this charge arose out of the displaying of a PPU poster, while the other referred to its being "under their control."

#### Maximum Penalty

The part of the Defence Regulations referred to reads:

"No person shall (a) endeavour to seduce from their duty persons in His Majesty's service or engaged under any public authority in the performance of functions in connexion with the defence of the realm or the securing of the public safety, or to cause among such persons disaffection likely to lead to breaches of their duty, or (b) with intent to contravene, or to aid, abet, counsel or procure a contravention of, sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph, have in his possession or under his control any document of such a nature that the dissemination of copies thereof among any such persons as aforesaid would constitute such a contravention."

The maximum penalty for an offence against this regulation is a fine of £100 and imprisonment for three months (or, if the case were to go before a jury, £500 and two years).

*Peace News* understands that about a fortnight ago police officers visited the headquarters of the Fellowship of Reconciliation in London and bought some literature which they wished to examine. The For offices were raided in the last war.

#### Or Courage?

"Height of coolness?"  
"In a crowded West End café two young writers shared a table with two Army officers in uniform."

"One of the writers borrowed a pencil from one of the officers; wrote—and read aloud—an anti-war poem."

—William Hickey, *Daily Express*.



The four leaders of the P.P.U. who have been summoned. Above (l. to r.): Dr. Alex Wood, Stuart D. Morris, Maurice L. Rowntree. Right: John Barclay.

### News of Objectors

## "Employers Should Accept Tribunals' Decisions" — Judge

### BUT DISMISSALS CONTINUE

A COMMENT on the action of employers who dismiss conscientious objectors was made by the chairman of the Lancashire tribunal for COs, Judge R. C. Essenhigh, last Thursday.

An applicant had spoken of the likelihood of his being dismissed from his post and the judge remarked: "If I were the master of a fellow who had taken his stand before the tribunal I should accept the decision of the tribunal."

Meanwhile, victimization of COs continues—and not only by private employers.

The latest case reported to *Peace News* is that of Southwell (Notts.) Rural District Council, which has given a month's notice to Mr. J. Cooper, of Bilthorpe, an evacuation clerk in its employ, whose name was removed from the register of COs by the Midlands tribunal.

Mr. Cooper informed a *Peace News* reporter that he had not appealed against the tribunal's decision.

#### Pressure by Employers

Two gas-meter inspectors for the Rotherham Corporation who had registered as COs, but had not appeared before a tribunal, were dismissed a fortnight ago because they held "views which are not considered to be in the public interest."

There is considerable opposition to COs in Rotherham, encouraged by articles in the weekly *Rotherham Advertiser*. As an instance of the local feeling, one of the dismissed men told *Peace News* how a dentist had refused to extract an aching tooth because he was a CO. "In other words," said the objector, "he refused to relieve my pain because I will not inflict pain, suffering, and death upon others."

An instance of pressure by employers is reported by a Birmingham reader, who was told by a man registering on April 27 that, although a pacifist, he would not register as a CO because his employers had told him they would not pay his wife a maintenance allowance in the event of the tribunal removing his name from the register of COs.

## Summoned for Refusing Medical Examination

IT has apparently been decided at last to take action against conscientious objectors who, having been through the tribunals, refuse to obey summonses to undergo medical examination.

When objectors have not refused, but have later refused to obey calling-up notices, they have been arrested. But so far refusals at the first stage have only been followed by repeated notices to appear for examination.

Now, however, at least two objectors have been summoned to appear in the police court for refusing to answer summonses to medical examination. They are:

George Plume (whose original registration as a "political" objector was successfully appealed against by the Minister of Labour), who is to appear at Tottenham police court Thursday next; and

H. D. Wilson, of Hull, who appealed against being registered for military service, but was ordered to do non-combatant duties.

#### Evidence Needed

##### at Reading

It is important for objectors appearing before the new tribunal at Reading to take witnesses and letters with them. Without such evidence the applicant is rarely successful, reports a correspondent.

## PACIFISTS AT LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE

PACIFISTS will be active at the Labour Party's conference in Bournemouth this weekend.

On Whit-Monday there will be a conference on "Pacifists and the Labour Party" in the Labour Hall, Lincoln Avenue, at 3 p.m. Chairman will be Reginald Sorensen, MP. At 7.30 p.m. there will be a public meeting in St. Peters Hall, Hinton Road, advertised elsewhere in this issue.

Organizers of these meetings are the Labour Pacifist Fellowship (in the second case in conjunction with the PPU). Annual general meeting of the LPF was held last week, when Councillor William C. Elliott, its secretary, said there was evidence that it was bringing back into activity within the Party many members who had become inactive or whose membership had lapsed.

It was agreed that the purpose of the Fellowship was to bring together individual pacifists and groups of pacifists within the Labour Party, for mutual encouragement and the stimulation of activity.

Activities will fall under four main headings: 1. Living pacifism; 2. Support for non-violent action in the struggle against the evils of capitalism; 3. Work for the attainment of socialism by non-violent means; 4. Education and propaganda with a view to bringing the Party's foreign policy into line with pacifist beliefs.

## "Peace News" Sellers Fined

ONE of five men fined 5s. for obstruction while selling political literature outside Hyde Park, alleged in Marlborough Street Police Court on Monday that there was a definite attempt to prevent progressive literature being sold, particularly *Peace News*. The seller, Mr. C. J. Waller, added that it was significant that some people, including members of the official Labour Party, were allowed to sell literature and never brought to court.

The other men were: E. Billing, G. T. Broadway, J. H. Hutchinson, and H. McCartney.

The magistrate (Sir Gervais Rentoul) said they could be quite sure of getting justice.

Miss Hands was fined 7s. 6d. and guinea costs on the charge of obstruction.

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IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PLACE A STANDING ORDER FOR "PEACE NEWS" THROUGH EITHER A NEWS-AGENT OR A GROUP

## PEACE NEWS

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★

Copies of "Peace News" ordered last week: 32,689.

Last week's donations to "Peace News" Fund: £5 6s. 9d.

Total of "Peace News" Fund to date: £620 1s. 7d.

(The Peace News Fund was launched to raise for some other branch of the Peace Pledge Union's activity the subsidy paid to *Peace News*. Though the paper is now self-supporting, the debt for the subsidy paid over several months remains, and we would therefore welcome donations of any size to enable us to pay it off as soon as possible. Individuals' acknowledgments will be sent. Cheques should be made payable to Peace News Ltd., and sent to the Peace Pledge Union, and should be sent to 3 Blackstock Road, London, N.4.)

Neither the Peace Pledge Union nor *Peace News* itself is necessarily committed to views expressed in the articles we publish. (It is less does the acceptance of advertisements imply endorsement of any views expressed or implicit therein or PPU connexion with the matter advertised.) Contributions are welcome, though no payment is made. They should be typewritten, if possible, and one copy only of the paper should be used. They may not be returned unless a stamped address envelope is enclosed, nor can we undertake to acknowledge all correspondence owing to increased cost of postage.

## He was a Pilgrim for Peace

(Continued from page 1)

real opportunity. Hitler had not then turned decisively to a war-policy to redress German grievances. Had the opportunity been seized, the present war might have been averted, and the foundations of durable peace laid.

But it was lost. European tensions increased. Undaunted, G. L. went in December, 1937, to Prague, Warsaw and Vienna. Percy Bartlett and I accompanied him. His prestige assured long interviews with the Presidents and other statesmen of all three countries. In August, 1938, on the same mission, the For group went to the Balkans, where the direct effort was repeated. George Lansbury had long discussions with the Premier of Bulgaria, King Carol of Rumania, Prince Paul, the Regent of Yugoslavia, and Admiral Horthy in Hungary. The purport of these interviews, and the possibilities of peace which G. L. knew to exist, were communicated to responsible British statesmen in the hope that British policy might yet sustain the Van der Land effort to found peace on international economic collaboration.

One final effort was made. In August last, actually a few weeks before the outbreak of war, we travelled hurriedly to Brussels, and together saw Pierlot, the Prime Minister. The next day G. L. had a long private audience with the King of the Belgians; one can say with truth that all that the King of a small neutral State could do to avert war King Leopold attempted.

Was there ever another such Pilgrim of Peace? Long beyond the three score years and ten of man's earthly journeying he toiled, for love of Christ and humanity, to hold back the evil men of war's destructive furies, to turn the mind of rulers and peoples towards the peace that could spring from the consideration of each other's needs, to keep before a darkening world the vision of a Fatherhood of love and brotherhood of mutual service.

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